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SYG'S TRIP TO HAVANA

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U THANT AND PARTY DEPARTED FOR CUBA ABOARD CHARTERED VARIIG 707 BOEING AIRCRAFT AT 10 AM TODAY, 20 MINUTES BEFORE SCHEDULED DEPARTURE TIME. WE UNDERSTAND FROM BRIG. GEN. RIKHYE THAT CASTRO HAD ARRANGED WORKING LUNCHEON IN HAVANA AND SUBSTANTIVE TALKS WOULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL. SYG APPEARED RELAXED DURING BOARDING PROCEDURES, SPOKE BRIEFLY TO PRESS AND CALLED ASIDE UNDER SECRETARY KISELEV (USSR) AND BUNCHE (USA) FOR FEW SECONDS OF PRIVATE CONVERSATION BEFORE LEAVING. IMMEDIATELY PRIOR DEPARTURE RIKHYE GAVE HINT THAT SYG WOULD "PRESENT HARD FACTS WITH SOFT VOICE" BUT IN EVENT NO PROGRESS WITH CUBANS MADE BY TOMORROW AFTERNOON HE WOULD RETURN AS SCHEDULED ABOARD VARIIG ELECTRA AIRCRAFT AND FULLY EXPECTED IMMEDIATE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING.

RIKHYE GRATEFUL FOR CUBA MAP SETS SENT UP BY DEPT. HE TOOK ALONG ONE ROW WALL MAPS, BOX OF MISC MAP AND CHART MATERIALS AND TWO FULL SETS OF CUBAN 1 TO 50,000 SERIES. RE CLEARANCE LATTER SET (UN CONSIDERED THIRD PARTY), HE CONFERRED WITH CUBAN AMB GARCIA-INCHAUSTEGUI WHO SURPRISED AND PLEASED ON BEING CONSULTED BUT STATED FINAL AUTHORIZATION MUST COME FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN HAVANA. RIKHYE THEN MARKED BOX "NOT TO BE OPENED" AND GAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF NOT TO TOUCH PARCEL UNTIL HE HAD TAKEN UP MATTER WITH HAVANA OFFICIALS UPON ARRIVAL. ALL OTHER BOXES CUBAN MAP MATERIALS WILL REMAIN AT MISSION AND DISTRIBUTED TO UN AS REQUESTED.

RIKHYE SAYS HIS PLANS ARE ABSOLUTELY FLUID. HE WILL REMAIN IN HAVANA IF TALKS GO WELL; IF NOT, HE EXPECTS RETURN NY WITH SYG

TOMORROW

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TOMORROW. HE SAID FIRST COMMUNICATION ON RESULTS CONVERSATIONS WITH CASTRO WOULD PROBABLY BE REPORTED TO CHEF DE CABINET C.V. NARASIMHAN EARLY EVENING. HE AND U THANT DECIDED LAST MINUTE TO CUT ORIGINAL PARTY FROM 31 MEMBERS TO 19.

MOST OF THOSE SCRATCHED WERE RADIO OPERATORS AND SPANISH-ENGLISH INTERPRETERS. 12 MEMBERS OF ORIGINAL PARTY ON ALERT TO LEAVE FOR HAVANA TOMORROW ABOARD ELECTRA IF NEEDED. ALSO ABOARD AIRCRAFT, BUT NOT PART OF OFFICIAL PARTY, WAS WIFE OF GUINEA MINISTER TO CUBA STRANDED IN NEW YORK DURING CRISIS AND CUBAN PERMANENT DEPUTY REP RAUL PRIMELLES.

STEVENSON

DMFJ

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